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Borough of Altrincham

1946

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AND HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

Chairman : COUNCILLOR W. H. WALKER

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR MRS. E. STUDLEY

FIRE BRIGADE AND AMBULANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman : ALDERMAN R. H. LEE

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OFFICIALS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

R. REID DUNCAN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.
Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital.
Medical Officer to the Child Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinic.

JAMES E. CRICKMORE, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.
Inspector under Shops' Acts.
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

KENNETH ASHLEY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

First Additional Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

BRIAN J. OVERBURY

Clerk in the Sanitary Department.
Student Sanitary Inspector.

MISS DORIS WHITWORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.(Cert.)

Health Visitor and Infant Life Protection Visitor.
Holds New Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

MISS KATHLEEN R. JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.C.N., H.V.(Cert.)

Health Visitor and Infant Life Protection Visitor.

K. VERNON BAILEY, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Consulting Obstetrical Surgeon for Puerperal Sepsis and difficult Obstetrical Cases.

BARBARA J. JOHNSON, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I., L.M.
Post-Natal Clinic.

MISS FLORENCE JONES, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V.(Cert.)

Matron, Isolation Hospital.

Miss W. RUTTER, S.R.N.

Matron, Day Nursery.

Mrs. C. R. HARGREAVES

Clerk, Sanitary Department.

Miss DOROTHY M. WILD

Clerk, Maternity and Child Welfare Department.
Secretary to the Medical Officer of Health.

Miss EILEEN ROBINSON

Junior Clerk, Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

NELSON BARKER

Ambulance Officer.

Annual Report for the Year 1946

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Altrincham.

*The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Altrincham.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADY and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Tenth Annual Report of the Municipal Borough of Altrincham, dealing with the health of the Borough for the year 1946.

Circular 13/47 of the Ministry of Health directs that the Annual Report be prepared on the lines of that for 1945 as indicated in Circular 28/46.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

The Borough of Altrincham is situated in the northern part of Mid-Cheshire, 8 miles south-west from the centre of the City of Manchester. Altrincham is particularly fortunate in being both an industrial town and a residential area.

Its heavy engineering works, which are of large size and are well known throughout the engineering world, and many other smaller works and factories are sited alongside the Bridgewater Canal in close proximity to admirable railway facilities.

The shopping centre, which serves a community much larger than Altrincham alone, and the residential area are well placed on the rising downs that promptly lead into the beautiful countryside of Cheshire.

A public market is held on Tuesday and Saturday of each week and is well patronised by shoppers from a very wide area.

There are Public Libraries and a Public Swimming Bath. An 18-hole Municipal Golf Course provides a wide area of open space in the Borough.

Area ....	....	....	....	....	....	3,519 acres
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	....	....	....	....	....	38,300
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946)	....	....	....	....	....	11,704
Rateable Value (at 31st December, 1946) ....	....	....	....	....	....	£307,320
Sum represented by a penny rate ....	....	....	....	....	....	£1,237 4s. 3d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of Births registered in, and allocated to, the Borough of Altrincham in 1946 is 680 (Males 322, Females 358). Still Births number 30 (Males 13, Females 17).

LIVE BIRTHS

Legitimate Births ....	....	....	646 (M. 307, F. 339)
Illegitimate Births ....	....	....	34 (M. 15, F. 19)

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate Births ....	....	....	25 (M. 9, F. 16)
Illegitimate Births ....	....	....	5 (M. 4, F. 1)

representing a Live Birth Rate of 17.7 per 1,000 of the population and a Still Birth Rate of 0.78 per 1,000 of the population. For 1945 these Rates were 17.0 and 0.46 respectively. In Altrincham, during 1946, 54 more babies should have been born to equal the Birth Rate of England and Wales.

The Illegitimate Births numbered 34, being exactly 5 per cent of the total. In 1945 this percentage was 6.4 and in 1938 it was 3.5.

DEATHS

The total number of Deaths, corrected for Outward and Inward Transfer, is 412 (Males 195, Females 217) representing a Death Rate of 10.7 per 1,000 of the population. In 1945, the Death Rate was 11.7. The year 1946 is, therefore, satisfactory on both sides of the account. The Birth Rate has risen and the Death Rate has fallen as compared with 1945. In England and Wales the Birth Rate has risen considerably from 16.1 in 1945 to 19.1 in 1946. Such a rise in the number of births, if increased still further in succeeding years, will postpone the fulfilment of the gloomy prognostications of dramatic rises in the national death rate. The continuance of this satisfactory state of affairs is closely bound up with the problem of housing accommodation. The more children that are born and who reach manhood and womanhood, the better it will be for each of them individually, for there will be more shoulders to bear the heavy burdens cast upon them by the two preceding generations, each in turn having had to face a deadly struggle for actual preservation.

The number of Deaths of Infants under one year of age is 24 (Males 12, Females 12) of whom one male is illegitimate, equivalent to an Infant Mortality Rate of 35 per 1,000 Live Births. Of these 24 deaths, 12 are attributable to premature birth, congenital malformations, birth injuries, etc.

The Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate is 29 per 1,000 illegitimate births.

The number of Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age is 5, being a rate of 3.8 per 1,000 of children under 2 years of age.

Area	Birth Rate per 1,000 of population		Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Diarrhoea under 2 years of age per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Births	Still Births			
England and Wales	19.1	0.53	11.5	43	4.4
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	22.2	0.67	12.7	45	6.1
148 Smaller Towns, 25,000–50,000	21.3	0.59	11.7	37	2.8
Altrincham, 1938	16.4	0.46	12.0	60	2.5
ALTRINCHAM, 1946	17.7	0.78	10.7	35	3.8

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	10	4	14
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	0	0

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued.*

Syphilitic Diseases	....	....	....	....	1	1	2
Influenza	....	....	....	....	7	3	10
Measles	....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Acute Infective Encephalitis	....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Cancer of Mouth and Oesophagus in Males and Uterus in Females	....	....	....	....	4	4	8
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	....	....	7	3	10
Cancer of Breast	....	....	....	....	0	9	9
Cancer of all other Sites	....	....	....	....	19	27	46
Diabetes	....	....	....	....	2	3	5
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	....	....	....	....	14	27	41
Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	53	52	105
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	....	....	....	....	6	8	14
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	12	13	25
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	6	7	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	....	....	....	....	3	4	7
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	....	....	....	....	2	0	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	....	....	....	....	3	2	5
Appendicitis	....	....	....	....	1	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases	....	....	....	....	1	3	4
Nephritis	....	....	....	....	10	10	20
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	....	....	....	....	0	1	1
Other Maternal Causes	....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Premature Birth	....	....	....	....	1	3	4
Congenital Malformations, etc.	....	....	....	....	4	4	8
Suicide	....	....	....	....	1	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents	....	....	....	....	2	1	3
Other Violent Causes	....	....	....	....	2	1	3
All Other Causes	....	....	....	....	23	25	48
All Causes	....	....	....	....	195	217	412

Cancer caused fewer deaths in 1946 than in 1945, the numbers being 73 and 93. The number of deaths from cancer in certain sites can be further reduced if the disease were more early diagnosed and radically treated. The dread of cancer often keeps patients from seeking medical advice until it is too late for radical treatment to be effective. It is satisfactory to note that in the Borough of Altrincham there has been only one death due to infectious notifiable disease other than Tuberculosis. The credit for this remarkable advance in medical treatment is due entirely to the use of sulphonamide drugs and especially to penicillin which is now in good supply and is comparatively cheap.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1946

Live Births	....	....	....	....	....	680	(M. 322, F. 358)
(Legitimate)	....	....	....	....	....	646	(M. 307, F. 339)
(Illegitimate)	....	....	....	....	....	34	(M. 15, F. 19)
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	....	....	....	....	....	17.7	
Still Births	....	....	....	....	....	30	(M. 13, F. 17)
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	....	....	....	....	....	42.2	
Deaths	....	....	....	....	....	412	(M. 195, F. 217)
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	....	....	....	....	....	10.7	
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings of the Registrar-General's Short List 29 and 30)	....	....	....	....	....
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	....	....	....	....	....	1	
No. 30. Other Maternal Causes	....	....	....	....	....	0	
Death rate of Infants under one year of age—	....	....	....	....	....
All Infants, per 1,000 Live Births	....	....	....	....	....	35	
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births	....	....	....	....	....	35.5	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births	....	....	....	....	....	29	
Deaths from Cancer (All ages)	....	....	....	....	....	73	
Deaths from Measles (All ages)	....	....	....	....	....	0	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (All ages)	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	....	....	....	....	....	5	

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES

During 1946, 106 specimens were reported upon by the Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine of the University of Manchester. Diphtheria swabs 54, all of which were found to be negative ; Agglutination Tests 5, all being negative ; swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci 29 ; samples of milk for methylene blue and coli 10 ; samples of milk for bacteriological count and presence of Bacillus Coli 2 ; samples of faeces for Typhoid, Dysentery 3 ; various specimens for culture 3. During 1946, 111 specimens of sputum were examined bacteriologically for the presence of Tuberclle Bacillus by the Public Health Laboratory of the County of Chester of which 15 were found to be positive. Sterile throat swabs, blood collection outfits, diphtheria anti-toxin and diphtheria prophylactic material are kept at the Town Hall for use, within the Borough, by medical practitioners.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Borough of Altrincham maintains 3 well-equipped Ambulance Vehicles. The service is staffed by full-time male personnel and is under the charge of an Ambulance Officer. The service is free of charge to residents of the Borough to any hospital or nursing home within a radius of 10 miles from the Altrincham Town Hall.

The various Councils covered by the Altrincham Ambulance Service are as follows :—

Altrincham	Bucklow
Knutsford	Lymm.

The record of cases removed to and from various Hospitals for the year January 1st, 1946, to December 31st, 1946, is as follows :—

	Hospital Treatment Illness	Accident and Sudden Illness
Altrincham	.... 3619	202
Bucklow	.... 161	37
Knutsford	.... 77	17
Lymm	.... 84	11
 Total	.... 3941	267
 Grand Total : 4208		

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME

There is an efficient and excellently organised District Nursing Association in the Borough of Altrincham, affiliated with the Queen's Nurses' Institute.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS, including Clinics solely for diagnosis or consultation.

There are two Child Welfare Centres

1. Mountlands Welfare Centre

3 Sessions are held each week, 1 on Mondays and 2 on Wednesdays. 1 Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month.

1 Post-Natal Clinic is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, conducted by a female general practitioner.

2. Park Road Welfare Centre, Timperley.

4 Sessions are held each week, 2 on Tuesdays and 2 on Thursdays. Inoculation Clinics for immunisation against Diphtheria are held on a Saturday morning every 4 weeks at each Child Welfare Centre.

Medical Consultations at the Child Welfare Centres were as follows :—

		Under one year of age	Over one year of age
Mountlands Welfare Centre	924	598	326
(M. 482, F. 442)			
Park Road Welfare Centre	631	319	312
(M. 324, F. 307)			
Total (M. 806, F. 749)	1555	917	638

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

The number of ante-natal examinations carried out in 1946 was 472, 146 expectant mothers having attended, giving an average attendance of 21 per session.

Post-Natal Clinic

There were 63 attendances.

(e) HOSPITALS—PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY
There has been no change.

2. (i) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES

It is expected that all pregnant women, not under the care of a medical practitioner, shall attend, accompanied by the midwife of their choice, at the Ante-Natal Clinic.

(ii) INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

Since April, 1943, a Day Nursery has been established at Walney, 1, Gaskell Road, Altrincham, for the daytime care of children whose mothers are employed in industry. The demand for places in the Nursery far exceeds the accommodation available. In the war years the accommodation was not fully utilised. In 1946 there was a long waiting-list with the accommodation already overcrowded.

All through the war years there was an acute shortage of maternity beds. Since the termination of hostilities the need for maternity beds has become far greater. To meet this urgent need the Borough Council submitted plans to the Ministry of Health for the conversion of the Isolation Hospital into a Municipal Maternity Home.

At the end of 1946 these plans had not received the approval of the Ministry of Health. Many expectant mothers from the Borough of Altrincham who were living in rooms entirely unsuitable for childbirth, have been admitted to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, and to Southfields Maternity Home in Bowdon, which is administered by the Cheshire County Council. As a Maternity and Child Welfare Authority, the Altrincham Borough Council is fully alive to its responsibilities in the provision of maternity beds but all its efforts in this direction have so far proved fruitless.

(iii) HEALTH VISITORS

There are 2 Health Visitors employed entirely on Maternity and Child Welfare Work.

(iv) CHILD LIFE PROTECTION

Under the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, children are visited until they attain the age of 9 years.

(v) ARRANGEMENTS FOR DENTAL, ORTHOPAEDIC, ETC., CASES

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held each week at the Altrincham General Hospital, under the care of an orthopaedic specialist. Many cases are referred from the Child Welfare Centres to the Orthopaedic Clinic. Facilities for treatment by Ultra-Violet Rays are also available at the Altrincham General Hospital.

Dental Treatment can be obtained by expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age whose family income entitles them to it.

(vi) HOME HELPS

In April, 1944, the work of the Voluntary Home Help Society in Altrincham was taken over by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Borough Council. Two full-time and three part-time Home Helps are employed, and during 1946 Home Helps were provided for 65 cases.

(vii) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC

A Clinic is held every 4 weeks at each of the 2 Child Welfare Centres, each child receiving 2 doses of Alum Precipitated Toxoid at a 4-weekly interval.

At the end of 1946 the number of children under 5 years of age who had been immunised is 1,538, and the number of those over 5 years but under 15 years is 3,645, a total of 5,183 children under 15 years of age. The protection thus afforded to the community is excellent, but it can never be ideal until 100 per cent of these age groups are immunised and maintained at that figure. In 1946 no case of Diphtheria was notified to me.

(viii) DAY NURSERY

During 1946 the total number of attendances at the Nursery was 9,632. Of the age group from 0 to 2 years, 2307 attendances were made, and of the age group 2 to 5 years, 7325 attendances. The total number of attendances in 1946 was much reduced on account of the prevalence of Measles and Whooping Cough.

(ix) PREMATURE INFANTS

During 1946, the births of 31 premature babies were notified, 21 born at home and 10 in Hospital or Nursing Home. Of those who were nursed entirely at home, 4 died during the first 24 hours, and 16 survived at the end of one month. Of those born in Hospital or Nursing Home, none died during the first 24 hours, and 9 survived at the end of one month.

Infantile Mortality consists mainly of neo-natal deaths, that is, within the first month of life. When there is adequate accommodation for institutional care of maternity cases, neo-natal deaths will be fewer in number and Infantile Mortality will be considerably reduced.

For the conveyance of premature infants to hospital, an Ambulance is provided, complete with cot, hot water bottles, blankets and oxygen.

**MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
ANNUAL REPORT, 1946**

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my report of the work of this department from 1st January to 31st December, 1946.

Number of live births notified	M. 316, F. 349	....	....	....	665
,, ,, still ,, ,,	M. 13, F. 10	....	....	....	23
		Total Notified	....	....	688

VISITS BY TIMPERLEY HEALTH VISITOR

Number of first visits to Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	286
,, ,, subsequent visits to Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	884
Total visits to children 1 to 5 years	....	....	....	....	1225
Number of first visits to expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	47
,, ,, subsequent visits to expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	7
,, ,, Infant Life Protection visits	....	....	....	....	7
,, ,, Adoption Act visits	....	....	....	....	9
		Total visits	....	....	2465

VISITS BY ALTRINCHAM HEALTH VISITOR

Number of first visits to Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	344
,, ,, subsequent visits to Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	911
Total visits to children 1 to 5 years	....	....	....	....	1342
Number of first visits to expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	125
,, ,, subsequent visits to expectant mothers	....	....	....	....	19
,, ,, Infant Life Protection visits	....	....	....	....	7
,, ,, Adoption Act visits	....	....	....	....	41
		Total visits	....	....	2789

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

THE MOUNTLANDS

Number of children who attended for 1st time under 1 year	....	....	....	....	352
Total number of children weighed under 1 year	....	....	....	....	6458
Number who attended for the 1st time between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	20
Total number weighed between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	3755
		Total number weighed	....	....	10213

Number of individual cases from outside districts who attended for the 1st time—under 1 year	....	....	....	....	10
,, ,, between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	1
Total attendances under 1 year	....	....	....	....	98
,, ,, between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	3

There were 148 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance at each session of 70.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

This Clinic is held on the second and fourth Tuesday each month.					
Number of expectant mothers attending for first time	....	....	....	....	146
Total number of attendances	....	....	....	....	472

There were 23 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance of 21 per session.

POST-NATAL CLINIC

This Clinic is held on the third Tuesday in each month.					
Total number of attendances	....	....	....	....	63

PARK ROAD CENTRE

HOMESTEAD

Number of children who attended for 1st time under 1 year	....	....	....	....	259
Total number of children weighed under 1 year	....	....	....	....	5878
Number who attended for 1st time between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	37
Total number weighed between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	5208
Total number weighed	....	....	....	....	11086

Number of individual cases from outside districts who attended for 1st time—under 1 year	....	....	....	....	24
,, ,, between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	7
Total attendances under 1 year	....	....	....	....	247
,, ,, between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	20

There were 198 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance at each session of 58.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS' ACTS, 1908 and 1932

Number of foster mothers on the register at the end of year	....	....	....	....	1
,, ,, children on the register at the end of year	....	....	....	....	1
,, ,, cases removed from register	....	....	....	....	5
,, ,, new cases added to register	....	....	....	....	5
Total visits paid	....	....	....	....	14

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (REGULATION) ACT, 1939

Number of persons who gave notice under section 7(3) during the year	....	....	....	....	12
Total number of children adopted under the section during the year	....	....	....	....	14

IMMUNISATION CLINIC

The above Clinic has been held once each month at both Centres on Saturday mornings.

The number completely immunised at 31st December, 1946, was :— Mountlands, 208 ; Homestead, 207. TOTAL, 415.

The number re-immunised after 5 years of age :—Mountlands, 14 ; Homestead, 45 ; Total, 59.

I should like to thank the Voluntary Workers at the Welfare Centres for their clerical services at the Centres and their unstinting aid with toy-making and social activities. One of them has given over 17 years' service, three have given 10 years' service, and several have given 3 to 4 years' service.

D. WHITWORTH, Health Visitor.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1946

Sanitary Department,
Town Hall,
Altrincham.

February, 1947.

*His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Altrincham Borough Council.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADY and GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report of the Sanitary Administration for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

WATER SUPPLY

The district is supplied with water by the Manchester Corporation. A Sub-Committee was appointed to deal with the provision of water supply to Brookside Farm, off Sinderland Road, and adjoining premises.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

Towards the end of the year a more frequent collection of refuse from the ashbins was inaugurated. Before the outbreak of war in September, 1939, refuse was collected weekly in the Borough. The yield of refuse collected has increased due to the larger amount of residue remaining after the consumption of the poorer quality of fuel, and to the fact that there is practically no empty property in the borough. Seventy-three new houses have been erected, and 55 temporary houses.

Two new S.D. Freighters ordered from Messrs. Shelvoke and Drewry, Ltd., in 1943, were delivered, and the Refuse Collection Vehicles consist of :—

2 Eleven cubic yard S.D. Freighters	....	....	....	1946
1 Guy Vixant ....	....	....	....	1942
1 Eleven cubic yard S.D. Freighter	....	....	....	1939
1 Ten cubic yard S.D. Freighter	....	....	....	1936
2 Eight cubic yard Leyland Waggons	....	....	....	1932
1 Seven cubic yard S.D. Freighter	....	....	....	1930

The premises relieved were as follows :—

ASHBINS

No. of houses relieved	396626
No. of ashbins emptied	429025
No. of tipping ashbins	21901
No. of loads removed	5298

ASHPITS

No. of houses relieved	1668
No. of wet ashpits emptied	47
No. of pails emptied	1983
No. of dry ashpits emptied	45

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SALVAGE

The amount of salvage collected and sold for the financial year 1st April, 1945, to 31st March, 1946, is shown in the following table :—

					T.	c.	q.	£	s.	d.
Paper ....	....	....	....	....	257	2	2	1639	19	6
Ferrous Metal	....	....	....	....	55	10	2	83	5	9
Non-Ferrous Metal	....	....	....	....	1	5	5	51	8	7
Textiles, etc.	....	....	....	....	15	15	3	167	14	6
Bottles, etc.	....	....	....	....	40	1	1	60	2	1
Kitchen Waste	....	....	....	....	42	16	2	64	4	9
Bones ....	....	....	....	....	5	11	2	29	6	9
Miscellaneous ....	....	....	....	....	1	19	3	12	0	3
					420	4	0	2108	2	2

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The refuse is being disposed of on land at the Sewage Disposal Works. Excavations of earth have been made, and further excavations will have to be made in 1947, to provide further tipping facilities.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Water Supply	....	22	Shops	....	....	....	45
Drainage	....	220	Ash Receptacles	....	....	....	1519
Tents, Vans and Sheds	....	13	Public Mortuary	....	....	....	23
Factories	....	14	Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	761
Bakehouses	....	45	Dairies & Milk Shops	....	....	....	51
Public Conveniences	....	152	Inspections in Market	....	....	....	220
Refuse Collection	....	51	Miscellaneous Visits	....	....	....	315
Refuse Disposal	....	36	Meetings Attended	....	....	....	66
Rodent Control	....	43	Infectious Disease Enquiries	....	....	....	28
Schools	....	42	Food Premises	....	....	....	102

NOTICES SERVED

Notices Served			Notices complied with			Notices Outstanding		
Informal	Statutory	Total	Informal	Statutory	Total	Informal	Statutory	Total
1043	116	1159	827	99	926	216	17	233

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

The Corporation still continued to act as Agents for the Cheshire County Council under the above Act.

Approximate No. of cases investigated	....	....	....	81
Serious ....	....	....	....	7
Minor ....	....	....	....	74

Advice has been given to the occupiers of premises as to the measures to be applied for the extermination of rats.

HOUSING

New houses erected by Private Enterprise	....	....	....	....	41
Houses erected by the Local Authority	32

DESIGNATED MILKS

Supplementary Licence to sell "Pasteurized" Milk	1
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Summary of Foodstuffs surrendered at shops during 1946.

Foodstuffs	January	February	March	April and May	June	July	August and September	October and November	December	Totals
Bacon	7½ lbs.
Beetroot	2 jars	2 jars	...	18 lbs.
Black Puddings	1 jar	1 jar	...	5 lbs.
Bovril	5 lbs.	5 lbs.	...	264 pkts.
Brawn	6 pkts.	6 pkts.	...	6 pkts.
Cake and Pudding Mixture	4 pkts.	4 pkts.	...	4 pkts.
Cereals	6½ lbs.	6½ lbs.	...	6½ lbs.
Cheese	260 pkts.	260 pkts.	...	260 pkts.
,, Trimmings	4 pkts.	4 pkts.	...	4 pkts.
Chocolate	3½ lbs.	3½ lbs.	...	3½ lbs.
Cocoa	19 boxes	19 boxes	...	19 boxes
Eggs, Dried	30 bars	30 bars	...	30 bars
,, Shell	24 lbs.	24 lbs.	...	24 lbs.
Fish Cakes	1 pkt.	1 pkt.	...	1 pkt.
,, Dried	23 lbs.	23 lbs.	...	23 lbs.
,, Fresh—Cod	6 st.	6 st.	...	6 st.
,, Crab	8½ st.	8½ st.	...	8½ st.
,, Herring	4 lbs.	4 lbs.	...	4 lbs.
,, Kippers	42 lbs.	42 lbs.	...	42 lbs.
,, Ling	39 lbs.	39 lbs.	...	39 lbs.
,, Paste	70 lbs.	70 lbs.	...	70 lbs.
Jam	1 jar	1 jar	...	1 jar
Marmalade	2 lbs.	2 lbs.	...	2 lbs.
Oatmeal	5 lbs.	5 lbs.	...	5 lbs.
Pickles	6 lbs.	6 lbs.	...	6 lbs.
Prunes	1 jar	1 jar	...	1 jar
Sauce	11 lbs.	11 lbs.	...	11 lbs.
Sausages	2 cwt.	2 cwt.	...	2 cwt.
Sugar	1 lb.	1 lb.	...	1 lb.
Syrup	7½ lbs.	7½ lbs.	...	7½ lbs.
Tea

SUMMARY OF CANNED FOODS SURRENDERED AT SHOPS DURING 1946

Canned Foods	January	February	March	April and May	June	July	August and September	October and November	December	Totals
Canned Fish—										
Crawfish										2 tins
Herrings				1				8	8	17 ,,
Mackerel	1									1 ,,
Pilchards	6	7	1	12	2	5	7	11	5	56 ,,
Salmon	2	4		8		5	10	4	3	36 ,,
Sardines		2		1						3 ,,
Shrimps	1									1 ,,
Canned Meat—										
6 lb. tins				1		1	2			4 ,,
2½ lb. tins						1	1			2 ,,
1½ lb. and under	3	5	2	3		3	9	27	7	59 ,,
Canned Fruit—										
Apricots				5	2					7 ,,
Damsons					2		2			2 ,,
Fruit Salad										2 ,,
Pineapples				13						13 ,,
Plums				2		9				11 ,,
Canned Vegetables—										
Beans	1	10	5	10	3	1	19	7	3	59 ,,
Beetroot	4			3				2		9 ,,
Carrots	12	2	1	1	4	2		1	1	24 ,,
Mixed Vegetables				2		2				4 ,,
Peas	85	3		19	3	6	22	15	9	162 ,,
Spinach		1								1 ,,
Canned Jam				1				1		2 ,,
Canned Marmalade					2					2 ,,
Canned Meat & Veg.		1					5	3	2	11 ,,
Canned Milk	3	29	6	26	12	4	14	35	15	144 ,,
Canned Soup	2	3		30	2		9	7	3	56 ,,

Annual Summary of Meat Unfit at Slaughterhouses during the Year, 1946, with particulars of Diseases.

ANNUAL SUMMARY OF MEAT UNFIT AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES
DURING THE YEAR 1946 (*continued*)

Miscellaneous Organs	Bovines	Pigs	Sheep	Total
Heads	272	7	2	279
Plucks	1144	7	78	1229
Hearts	59		1	60
Livers	1218	1	473	1692
Spleens	164		1	165
Skirts	60			60
Stomachs	147	6	4	157
Intestines	505	7	11	523
Udders	843	4		847
Kidneys	232	2		234
Mesenteries	29			29

NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED

Bovines	Pigs	Sheep
Beasts 4232, Calves 2842	106	13951

Cwt. qr. lb.

Amount of Corned Beef Condemned	....	18 2 3
Amount of Corned Mutton Condemned	....	3 24

During the year it has been difficult to get work executed to property, both for the abatement of nuisances, and for essential repairs. Shortage of skilled labour in the building trade and difficulty in obtaining essential materials have had their effect.

The Second Additional Sanitary Inspector resigned his appointment in July, and at the end of the year the vacancy had not been filled. Since that time it has not been possible to give adequate attention to the inspection of food premises, or some of the duties devolving upon Sanitary Inspectors, under the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JAMES E. CRICKMORE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE BOROUGH OF ALTRINCHAM

During 1946, the cases of infectious diseases notified to me were as follows :

Erysipelas ....	....	....	10	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3
Scarlet Fever ....	....	....	36	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1
Pneumonia ....	....	....	14	Whooping Cough	75
Puerperal Pyrexia ....	....	....	3	Measles	114

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE TREATED IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL

There were 57 cases admitted during 1946 to the Isolation Hospital

Scarlet Fever (including 1 Scarlet Fever with Tonsillectomy
and 1 Scarlet Fever with Whooping Cough and
Measles) 34

Whooping Cough 3

Erysipelas (one died after 30 days, aged 81 years) 3

Mumps 2

Contact Mumps 2

Tonsillitis 2

Puerperal Pyrexia 3

Encephalitis—no sign of any disease developed 1

Meningitis—no sign of the disease developed 1

Gastro-enteritis (teething) 1

Measles.... 2

Streptococcal Infection 1

Nephritis 1

Threatened Abortion 1

Of these 57 cases, 47 were residents of the Borough of Altrincham or were admitted from St. Anne's Home for Diseases of the Throat and Nose.

From Bowdon Urban District, 4 cases were admitted, 3 Scarlet Fever and 1 Whooping Cough.

From Partington 1 Scarlet Fever

From Mere 1 Scarlet Fever

From Lower Peover 1 Scarlet Fever

From Cheadle 1 Scarlet Fever

From Gatley 1 Mumps

The present-day control of most infectious diseases is an outstanding triumph for modern medicine and preventive methods. At one time Smallpox was practically endemic in these islands. Vaccination against Smallpox, when universally practised, quickly diminished its incidence and finally stamped it out. With no threat of Smallpox for so many years, the need for protection against it has been sadly neglected. With the coming of the high velocity,

intercontinental aeroplane, the risk of Smallpox breaking out in this country is greatly increased. Complete protection against it demands a primary vaccination in the early months of infancy and a secondary vaccination 10 years later. The scourge of typhus is now largely eliminated by making use of the insecticidal powers of D.D.T. Diphtheria by means of universal immunisation of the infant, followed by a reinforcement dose at the start of school life, would certainly disappear from the list of diseases in this country. Protection against Whooping Cough has not yet been attained with any degree of certainty. A newer preparation is being tried out on an extensive scale in several selected communities in this country. Although not equal to the prevention of disease, the curative effects of the sulphonamide drugs and penicillin are truly remarkable and dramatic. The provision and maintenance of small isolation hospitals throughout the country can no longer be justified. There are few cases for admission and the necessary period of hospitalisation is very much reduced. In the future, one large hospital would serve the needs of a very large population. Unfortunately, no specific drug or preparation has yet been found to render impotent the causative organism of tuberculosis.

SCABIES

Six cases of Scabies, who had attended the Skin Hospital in Manchester, were notified to me by the Medical Officer of Health of the City of Manchester.

Domiciliary visits were made to offer facilities for the sterilisation of bedding and underclothing.

WATER SUPPLY

With few exceptions, numbering 5, all houses are provided with a piped supply of water by the Corporation of Manchester.

SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

Disease	Total No. of cases	Cases removed to Hospital	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 and over
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	36	27	-	3	7	14	4	5	2	1
Whooping Cough	75	2	6	23	16	27	2	-	1	-
Measles	114	2	4	31	32	47	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	14	-	1	-	3	4	-	-	2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Erysipelas	10	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1946.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5 to 15	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 25	2	3	—	4	—	1	—	—
25 to 35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 to 45	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 55	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
55 to 65	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	1
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	10	4	3	5	7	3	—	1

The Annual Report for the Borough of Altrincham indicates that the state of the public health in 1946 was highly satisfactory in spite of the shortage in housing accommodation. With this shortage overcome, an even better state of public health can be anticipated.

In concluding my Report, I take the opportunity to acknowledge to the Officials of the Health Department, especially to the Chief Sanitary Inspector, to the Health Visitors and to my Secretary, Miss Dorothy Wild, my indebtedness for their valuable help in assisting me to draw up this Annual Report.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. REID DUNCAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.



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